

If the two *thodus* could be opened and the works executed in full, about 15,000 acres of paddy lands would be vastly benefited and the paddy crops which were being raised once in two years could be had annually. The Member added that the P. W. D. estimate for Rs. 2 lakhs for the work was highly exaggerated and that such a large amount of money would not be required. He, therefore, requested Government to re-consider their order and grant the prayer of the people.

Dewan's reply.—The Chief Engineer has been asked to prepare a revised estimate for the Chalakal canal. The cost of cutting the Kuttupuzha canal would be prohibitive and disproportionate to the benefit to be derived.

88. Improvement of the means of communication in the Minachil taluk.

Mr. Ulahannan Ulahannan (Member, Minachil taluk) urged that the following works be immediately attended to :—

(1) Construction of a bridge in the Lalam-Ponkunnam road across the Minachil river.

(2) Completion of the Lalam-Ramapuram road which had been partially cut by the people.

(3) Conversion, into a cartable road, of the village road from Mankompu-Plasanapallikkal to Lalam-Thodupuzha road *via* Piravithanam, which had been cut by the people.

(4) Government should maintain the following roads :—

(a) The road partially cut from Ettumanur-Lalam road to Ettumanur-Kuthattukulam road *via* Elakkad.

(b) Vazhanattom-Bharananganom road.

(c) The road from Lalam-Thodupuzha road to Ramapuram *via* Ezhacheri.

(5) Metalling of the Lalam-Thodupuzha road.

In conclusion, the Member prayed that the works already sanctioned be ordered to be pushed through.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

89. Construction of a pucca building for holding the local Munsiff's Court in the compound in which the Taluk Cutcherry is located.

Mr. Ulahannan Ulahannan (Member, Minachil taluk) submitted that the Munsiff's Court was first held in a two storeyed building which could not be used when there were freshes in 1094. So it was removed to another building about half a mile away from the busy trading portion of the town and the Taluk and other Cutcheries. On account of the close touch the people should have with the Munsiff's Court, it was highly desirable to locate the court in a suitable place, preferably, in the Taluk Cutcherry compound where all other offices were being held. That would be convenient to the people also.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

90. Need for more public works in the Muvattupuzha taluk.

Mr. Muthai Abraham (Member, Muvattupuzha taluk) said that there existed a village road which joined, at the sixth mile, the road that started from the 130th mile of the main central road. It was of great use to a large population inhabiting several *karas* of the taluk. The people had cut 8 out of the 10 miles of the road. The Member's request was that the village road might be taken over by Government and maintained by the P. W. D. with the necessary culverts and bridges. He then explained the configuration of the taluk with special reference to the lay of the rivers and their usefulness to the people, if the river were harnessed. The suggestion of the Member was that the portion of the river between Piravam and Muvattupuzha (cusba) should be bounded by rounding off the curves and

embankments constructed in such a way that the water in the river might become available both in the hot weather and rainy season.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

91. Improvement of the means of communication in the Muvattupuzha taluk.

Mr. Thariathu Kunjithomman (Member, Muvattupuzha taluk) explained, that the geographical position of the taluk was such that the people were at a disadvantage in regard to means of communication either by road or by backwater. The Muvattupuzha river would be useless for 8 months of the year for purposes of navigation, as there would be no water. For the remaining months the river would be in high flood and the current would be so strong as to render the use of boats dangerous. The roads too would be slushy during the rainy season. Thus, the people were being put to considerable hardship. If at least the main roads could be metalled, it should give some relief to the inhabitants. So far as Group II comprising the northern *pakuthies* of the taluk was concerned, there was not a single road. The Member, therefore, urged—

(1) the conversion of the 6 feet trace from Kothamangalam to Vazhakulam into a road, and

(2) Government taking up for maintenance the road from the Kothamangalam-Devicolam road, 3rd mile to Kulangattumuzhi and the road from Kothamangalathangadi to Nadukani. The last two items of roads were carried out by the people.

Dewan's reply.—Noted.

92. Improvement to the Erattupetta-Pala road and the construction of certain culverts and bridges.

Mr. J. R. Vincent (Member, Mundakayam Planters' Association) represented that the Palai-Erattupetta road and the Rani-Manimala road which were being used by the neighbouring Estates throughout the year for bringing rice, provisions, etc., for the coolies, were not fit for traffic for about 6 months in the year and were not properly maintained by the Public Works Department. He requested that the two roads should be metalled, culverts and bridges being constructed wherever necessary. It would suffice if an increased grant to get the two roads metalled as first class roads be sanctioned.

The Member next referred to the necessity for a good cartable road from Cherivalli to Vellanadi and said that an estimate had been prepared for its construction. The amount estimated for the construction of the road would not be deemed too high to be spent during 1095. As the subject had been urged before the Assembly on three occasions, he prayed that the road might be constructed at a very early date.

He also requested that the Erattupetta-Teakoi road which passed through the thickly populated and fertile places should be taken up and maintained by Government with bridges and culverts wherever necessary.

Dewan's reply.—The representation of the Member will be referred to the Chief Engineer.

93. Means of communication in the Thodupuzha taluk.

Mr. K. Sankara Iyer (Member, Thodupuzha taluk) urged the improvement and metalling of the following roads:—

(1) The Lalam-Thodupuzha road and the Kuthattukulam-Thodupuzha road.

(2) The road from Kothamangalam which passes through Kotikulam, Muttam &c., should be joined on to Puzhagu.